

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Final Office Action dated November 16, 2006 has been carefully considered. Claims 1-10 are pending in the present application with claim 1 being in independent form. By the present Amendment, claims 1, 7 and 8 have been amended in order to further clarify the features of the present application.

Claims 1-3, 6 and 9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,833,661 to Kim. Reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 1, as amended herein, relates to an analogue display device for a timepiece, including display means arranged to jump relative to a dial having a non-sequential pattern of the values to be displayed, wherein successive values to be displayed on the dial are offset by regular intervals of a certain number of successive positions in the non-sequential pattern of the values to be displayed and wherein the succession of values is indicated by a mechanical control mechanism operable to drive the display means.

In contrast, as was explained in Applicant's previous response, Kim discloses a time piece with a random numbered dial with values distributed around the dial randomly, without any regular interval between successive values to be displayed. That is, in Kim, the values on the dial are arranged in complete disorder and do not correspond to any particular rule. For example, as is shown in Figure 1 of Kim, numerals 1 and 2 are separated by three alternately non-successive positions while numerals 2 and 3 are separated by five successive positions. Thus, the successive values on the dial of Kim are not offset by regular intervals, as is required by claim 1 of the present application, for example.

In addition, Kim fails to disclose that the succession of values is indicated "by a mechanical control mechanism operable to drive the display means", as is required by claim 1 of the present application. In contrast, in Kim, each of the hour hand, minute hand and second hand are directly connected to motors M1, M2 and M3, respectively. The motors are independently driven by an electronic circuit. Thus, the watch described in Kim is a purely electronic watch driven by motors. Kim does not disclose that the succession of values are indicated by a mechanical control mechanism, as is required by amended claim 1 of the present application.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1, and the claims depending therefrom, are patentable over the cited art for at least the reasons described above.

Claims 4-5 and 7-8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kim in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,323,363 to Hysek et al. Reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 4-5 and 7-8 depend from independent claim 1, either directly or indirectly. As noted above, it is believed that claim 1 is patentable over Kim for at least the reasons described above. Further, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is patentable over the combination of Kim and Hysek et al. since Kim and Hysek et al., either alone or in combination, fail to show or suggest the patentable features of claim 1 described above.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1, and the claims depending therefrom, including claims 4-5 and 7-8 are patentable over the cited art for at least the reasons described above.

Claim 10 has been rejected as allegedly being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in light of Kim in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,432,759 to Vaucher. Reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 10 depends from claim 2, which, in turn, depends from independent claim 1. As noted above, it is believed that claim 1 is patentable over Kim for at least the reasons noted above. Further, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is patentable over Kim and Vaucher since Kim and Vaucher, either alone or in combination, fail to show or suggest the patentable features of claim 1 described above.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1, and the claims depending therefrom, including claim 10, are patentable over the cited art for at least the reasons described above.

In light of the remarks and amendments made herein, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1- 10, and the claims depending therefrom, are patentable over the cited art for at least the reasons described above.

Favorable reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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